



Michigan *Office of the Auditor General* **REPORT SUMMARY**

Performance Audit Migrant, English Language Learners, and Bilingual Programs Michigan Department of Education

Report Number:
31-250-05

Released:
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The Migrant Program ensures educational continuity for migrant children in an effort to improve school achievement. The English Language Learners (ELL) Program helps limited English proficient children learn English and meet challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards. The Bilingual Program assists such children in developing cognitive skills in their native language while acquiring skills in English.

Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE's) efforts in evaluating the Migrant Program.

Audit Conclusion:

MDE's efforts were moderately effective in evaluating the Migrant Program.

Reportable Conditions:

MDE had not fully developed and implemented a comprehensive process to evaluate the effectiveness of the Migrant Program (Finding 1).

MDE's on-site monitoring of local school districts' migrant programs did not include verification of student eligibility (Finding 2).

Noteworthy Accomplishments:

MDE hosted six teachers from Mexico during the summers of 2004 and 2005 to deliver a curriculum regarding history, heritage, and culture to all migrant students. In addition, the teachers visited six local school districts to share Mexican curriculum and expectations and visited

with migrant families from Mexico to encourage the use of the appropriate scholastic documentation to facilitate re-entry into Mexican schools.

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Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of MDE's efforts in evaluating the ELL and Bilingual Programs.

Audit Conclusion:

MDE's efforts were moderately effective in evaluating the ELL and Bilingual Programs.

Reportable Conditions:

MDE had not developed and implemented a comprehensive process to evaluate the effectiveness of the ELL Program (Finding 3).

MDE did not perform procedures to ensure student eligibility during its on-site monitoring of local school districts' ELL programs (Finding 4).

Noteworthy Accomplishments:

MDE developed modules designed to provide information and technical assistance to schools with ELL Program students. The nine modules provide school districts with non-ELL Program staff necessary guidance to provide services to non-English speaking students from the time of enrollment through the delivery of services.

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Agency Response:

Our audit report contains 4 findings and 4 corresponding recommendations. MDE's preliminary response indicates that it agrees with all the recommendations.

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A copy of the full report can be
obtained by calling 517.334.8050
or by visiting our Web site at:
<http://audgen.michigan.gov>



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